What is claimed is:

1. A coryneform bacterium having L-glutamine-producing ability and modified so that glutaminase activity of the bacterium is reduced.

2. The bacterium of claim 1, wherein said glutaminase activity is reduced by disrupting a glutaminase gene on a chromosome.

3. The bacterium of claim 1, wherein said glutaminase activity is 0.1 U/mg of cellular protein or less.

4. The bacterium of claim 1, wherein said glutaminase activity is similar to or less than glutamine synthetase activity when measured as activity per unit weight of cellular proteins.

5. The bacterium of claim 1, which is modified so that said glutamine synthetase activity of the bacterium is enhanced.

6. The bacterium according to claim 5, wherein said glutamine synthetase activity is enhanced by increasing the expression of a glutamine synthetase gene.

7. The bacterium according to claim 6, wherein said increase in the expression of a glutamine synthetase gene is attained by increasing the copy number of said gene encoding glutamine synthetase, or modifying an expression regulatory sequence of said gene encoding glutamine synthetase so that expression of the gene in the bacterium is enhanced.

8. A method for producing L-glutamine, comprising

a) culturing the bacterium of claim 1 in a medium to produce and accumulate L-glutamine in the medium, and

b) collecting the L-glutamine from the medium.

9. A glutamine synthetase gene derived from a coryneform bacterium, wherein the sequence from -35 of the gene is replaced with TTGCCA, and the sequence from -10 of the gene is replaced with TATAAT.

10. The glutamine synthetase gene of claim 9, wherein said gene has the DNA sequence of SEQ ID No. 3.

11. The glutamine synthetase gene of claim 9, wherein gene enocodes a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 4.